

REMARKS

The examiner has indicated that the applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species of an invention for prosecution on the merits from the following inventions groups of species of the claimed invention:

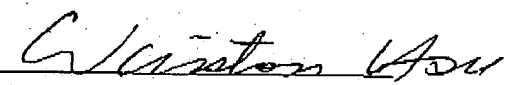
Group I: Product, class 257, subclass 84.

Group II: Method, class 438, subclass 22.

Response:

The applicants elect Group I for prosecution on the merits in response to the above election requirement. The claims readable on the elected Species are claims 14-22. Group II: Claims 1-13 is hereby withdrawn from prosecution. Consideration of the elected Species is politely requested.

Sincerely,


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Date: 5/18/2004

(Please contact me by e-mail if you need a telephone communication and I will return your call promptly.)